



BOUNCINGS

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4 Oct 08



Steaua

4 : 0

Byki

Red Team - NSL 1st Division
Forest Park - 1 October 2008

Top dogs Steaua flex their muscles

The Red Team got a taste of fast-paced football last Wednesday when they experienced a 4:0 scorching at the hands of FC Steaua Chicago at Forest Park. Steaua had already clinched promotion last weekend and their victory over the Byki locked them in as overall champions of the 1st Division. The loss was only the second for the Byki in their last 13 matches and drops them to 8-3-4 for the season.

The Byki had smoked Steaua 6:1 back in June, although the Romanians played that game with just eight players. Those three points were crucial for the Byki at the time, as they sought to ensure their place in the Championship Section. The match was marred by an imbecilic referee decision when the arbiter lopped off 23 minutes of the first half because the game started later than the scheduled kickoff time. "We are lucky that Steaua did not protest that match," noted George Gorecki. "This is the same problem that we had when we played the WI Jets."

Steaua asserted themselves from the outset and the Byki had a hard time coping. Steaua displayed a high level of technical skill, played the ball fast and smart, and were not shy about getting physical in order to win the ball. Steaua didn't get on the board until the second half, but it was mostly due to poor marksmanship.

But the Byki had their chances. They hit the framework three times and caught the Steaua defense flat-footed on several other occasions. Despite Steaua's huge advantage in possession, the Byki could have made the game far more interesting if they had converted their opportunities.

Steaua pressed the issue in the early minutes, but it was the Byki who came closer to scoring. In their first cohesive attack of the game, the Byki were inches away from snatching an unlikely lead after 13 minutes. Kevin Biggs sent a free kick from the right side to the far post. Minos Bouzoukis sneaked in unmarked and sent a delicate header across the face of goal. The keeper made a desperate dive, but needed the post to help him keep the ball out of the net.

Five minutes later, Steaua took advantage of a Byki turnover in their end of the field. A Steaua striker launched a hard shot from distance and Ryan Eliasek dove to make the save. The Byki roared back the other way. After a Steaua defender coughed up possession, the hustling Biggs took the ball and fired from the edge of the area. The keeper made the diving save, but spilled the rebound. Ivan Torossian swooped in to knock the ball home, but the goalie reacted well and incredibly smothered Torossian's attempt.

The Byki almost went in front at the end of the half. After Biggs heaved a long throw-in into the mixer, the ball was headed along to Josh Taylor, who was open in the arc. He crushed a half-volley that smacked off of the crossbar.

It didn't appear that the contest could stay scoreless for much longer and Steaua showed their worth when they scored twice in the first seven minutes of the second half. They broke the ice in the 46th minute when a weak Byki clearance landed at the top of the box. A Steaua player passed the ball to a teammate on the right side and he dribbled into empty space, beating Eliasek with a hard shot at the near post.

Two minutes later, Eliasek had to make a huge save on a shot from 25 yards. Steaua kept coming and went 2:0 up in the 52nd minute. Two quick passes broke the Byki down and a pass tucked into the middle resulted in an easy tap-in from six yards.

Smelling blood in the water, Steaua sought the knockout punch to put the Byki away. Eliasek was equal to the task, however, as he turned away excellent scoring chances in the 59th and 69th minutes.

The Byki were desperately looking for a way back into the match, but Steaua's momentum was hitting them like a tidal wave. Steaua put the game out of reach in the 78th minute. The Byki gave the ball away in midfield, leading to a Steaua counterattack. Steaua's winger crossed the ball in from the left side and Eliasek came out to intercept. But the ball eluded him and a Steaua player calmly rolled the ball

Stare Byki FC: Friends, Passion, Soccer



into the empty net.

The Byki nearly pulled one back in the 81st minute. A long free kick from midfield found Samah Oniassi running free on the left flank. Oniassi got behind the defense and drilled a shot that clanged off of the near post.

Steaua wrapped things up one minute from the end when another Byki turnover at midfield sent a Steaua player racing in alone on Eliasek. It was an easy matter to slide the ball past the advancing Eliasek.

Steaua demonstrated all of the characteristics of a Major Division team. "They've got the whole package," said Gorecki. "I expect that they will be competitive in the

Majors." For their part, the Byki got a good look at what it takes to make it to the top of the heap.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Eliasek – Black, Casey (c), Rose, Dziekiewicz – Domek, Boghicev, Biggs, Arredondo – Sodeinde, Torossian. **Bench:** Bouzoukis, Huell, Oniassi, Taylor.

Byki

3 : 4

WI Jets

Blue Team - NSL 1st Division
Olympic Park - 30 September 2008

Byki fall short in shootout

The Blue Team played a solid and compact brand of defense in the first half of last Tuesday's tilt with the West Indies Jets. But the Jets used speed and power to gain control of the contest in the second half to lead them to a 4:3 victory. The teams traded five goals in the last 16 minutes of the match, but the Byki fell short of finding an equalizer in the wild finish.

Of their twelve defeats this season, the Blue Team have lost by a single goal seven times. The players are working hard to compete, but have not found a way to translate that effort into consistent performances. The game against the Jets was the third time this season that the Byki have scored at least three goals and still lost.

Both teams had excellent opportunities to take the lead in the first half. Andy Lane nearly reprised his brilliantly headed goal against Prijedor last weekend when he got his noggin onto a long throw-in in the fifth minute. Lane's header zipped over the crossbar.

In the 25th minute, striker Richard Sodeinde looked poised to give the Byki the lead. After a Byki corner kick, Sodeinde was open for a shot. The defense blocked his attempt and the rebound came back to Sodeinde, who found Matt Fleming with a pass to the far post. Fleming's sharp-angle shot went wide of the mark.

The Jets had two good chances to score late in the first half. Joe Gambino made a terrific save on a shot from 30 yards and his defenders cleaned up the rebound in front of the goal. In the 35th minute, Gambino came fast off his line to thwart a Jets' through ball up the middle.

The Byki went ahead in the 38th minute. After Sodeinde's pressure resulted in a corner kick for the Byki, the lanky striker sent a strong cross into the box. Dan Stanley got there first and slammed a powerful header past the goalkeeper.

But the Jets regrouped after the break and scored shortly

after the second-half kickoff. Pressure from the Jets forced the Byki into several poor turnovers. The Jets eventually found a path to the goal when a simple pass inside the Byki penalty area wound up on the foot of an unmarked player, who slid the ball home to make it 1:1.

The Byki replied with dangerous sorties. In the 52nd minute, Alex Guzman sent a free kick from midfield into the box. Babatunde Ogundipe and the keeper battled for the ball in the air and the goalie lost his grip. Ogundipe could not gain possession, but the ball deflected over to Lane, who drilled a long shot that was blocked by a retreating defender.

Two minutes later, Lane was at it again. He laid the ball off for Guzman, who made a run down the right wing. He crossed the ball into the mixer, where the keeper fumbled it yet again. A mad scramble ensued, but the Jets cleared the ball out of danger.

The Jets took control of the match with two quick goals. In the 74th minute, the Byki defense let a long clearance bounce behind them. A Jets player tried to shoot, but the onrushing Gambino blocked the shot, leading to a corner. The Jets crossed the ball in and Fleming's attempt to win the ball with a header resulted in a goal for the Jets. Two minutes later, the Jets made it 3:1 in a deflating sequence for the Byki.

But the Byki were in it until the end. Seven minutes from time, the Byki sent a corner into the box and the a Jets defender handled the ball, leading to a penalty kick. Marek Ciszewski stroked the spot kick past the goalkeeper.

As the Byki pressed forward, the Jets exploited the extra space in the back to put pressure on the Byki, resulting in a corner kick. The Jets crossed the ball into the middle and scored with a near-post header in the 86th minute.

The Byki made it interesting right at the death. Guzman played a short corner to Sodeinde, who dribbled past two players along the goal line. He snaked a pass into the middle

for Ciszewski, who bulled his way in to knock the ball home with a first-time shot.

The Byki played well enough to get something from this game. Their defensive problems came back to haunt them and an eager opponent was ready to take advantage.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Stanley 2 (Sodeinde); 38th; 1:0. Ciszewski 2 (pk); 83rd; 2:3. Ciszewski 3 (Sodeinde); 88th; 3:4.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Gambino – Bant, Fetz, Gallo (c), Guzman – Lane, Fleming, Sphar, Berrone –Stanley, Sodeinde. **Bench:** Abubakar, Benavides, Ciszewski, McGrath, Ogundipe, Stillwell.

Byki Stats

RED TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Torossian	10	5	15
Haynes	7	2	9
Taylor	4	0	4
Biggs	1	3	4
Bouzoukis	2	1	3
Daniel	2	1	3
Arredondo	0	3	3
Ruiz	2	0	2
Samp	0	2	2
Bridge	1	0	1
Domek	1	0	1
Dziekiewicz	1	0	1
Fleming	1	0	1
Sodeinde	1	0	1
Boghicev	0	1	1
Casey	0	1	1
Huell	0	1	1
Team goals	3	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Tice	180	0	0.00
Eliasek	180	3	1.50
Gambino	540	9	1.50
Talpes, N.	270	8	2.67

Current record: 8-3-3

BLUE TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Benavides	4	3	7
Sodeinde	5	0	5
Ogundipe	2	0	2
Bai	1	1	2
Ciszewski	1	1	2
Fleming	1	1	2
Sphar	1	1	2
Delaunay	1	0	1
Gallo	1	0	1
Lane	1	0	1
McGrath	1	0	1
Stanley	1	0	1
Frischmann	0	1	1
Guzman	0	1	1
Kanver	0	1	1
Team goals	9	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Boone	180	5	2.50
Tice	90	3	3.00
McGrath	90	3	3.00
Solis	180	6	3.00
Jacobson	180	7	3.50
Gambino	270	12	4.00
Klimaszewski	90	4	4.00

Current record: 3-0-11

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Kekus	9	5	14
Banbor	1	3	4
Dec	2	1	3
Elmkinssi	2	1	3
Winter	2	1	3
Silverstein	1	2	3
Cardenas	2	0	2
Frischmann	1	1	2
Jacobs	1	1	2
Jedrzejewski	1	1	2
Gibbs	0	1	1
Team goals	4	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Klimaszewski	80	2	2.00
Najera	80	2	2.00
Zacarias	80	2	2.00
Fukar	480	13	2.17
Lopez	160	8	4.00
Blanco	240	13	4.33
Tsipris	80	5	5.00

Current record: 4-2-9